

Advances

Volume 10, Number 3 Fall 2009 News from the IU School of Liberal Arts

2009 Spirit & Place: Inspiring Places

by Pam Blevins Hinkle, Director, Spirit & Place Festival

What Indianapolis festival features nature walks and driving tours, dance and theatre performances, conversations and concerts, as well as panel discussions and potlucks? None other than the annual **Spirit & Place Festival**, scheduled for November 6-15, 2009.

But it isn't business as usual for the festival this year. After months of assessment and planning, Spirit & Place is unveiling a new model that proves "less is more." With a condensed 10-day format (down from 17), combined with innovative programs, new branding, and increased volunteer positions, Spirit & Place hopes to expand community interest and participation.

The Spirit & Place Festival is a Chautauqua-like festival managed by **The Polis Center**, a unit of the School of Liberal Arts that specializes in community-based research and advanced information technologies.

Now in its 14th year, the festival is a signature outreach project for IUPUI, promoting civic engagement, public imagination, and enduring change through creative collaborations among the arts, humanities, and religion. During 2009, this one-of-a-kind civic celebration will engage more than 20,000 people in a dynamic exploration of what *Inspiring Places* means to our cultures and communities.



Spirit & Place

Program elements include the new "Signature Series," 40 events organized by 108 community organizations, and a re-vamped "Public Conversation."

The Signature Series will open with three events: (1) a conversation on November 6 (7:00-8:30 PM) with local luminaries at St. Luke's United Methodist Church about how places are made sacred by personal experience; (2) a "Spirited Chase" on November 7 that takes participants to six inspiring places chosen by WFYI from among hundreds of community submissions; and (3) a visually striking, contemporary dance performance at the Indianapolis Museum of Art also on November 7 (7:00-8:30 PM).

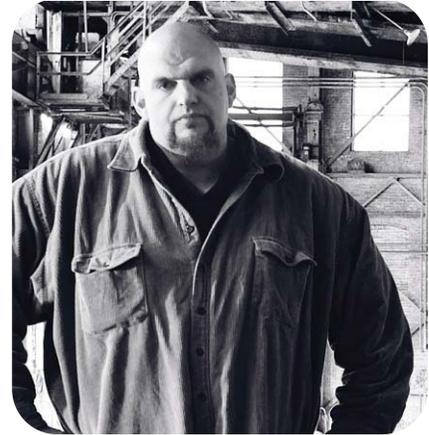
40 Community Events for all ages will feature authors and artists, poets and performers, civic and community leaders, professors and preachers, as well as storytellers and scholars in exploration of the *Inspiring Places* theme. Events are rich in topic diversity, covering the arts, politics, religion, spirituality,

the environment, community and economic development, social networking, and history, just to name a few. In keeping with a strong commitment to public accessibility, 85 percent of all festival events are free.

The 14th Annual Public Conversation will

feature the **Honorable William H. Hudnut III**, former Indianapolis mayor (1976 to 1991), and the **Honorable John Fetterman**, the 39-year-old mayor of Braddock, PA, who won his 2005 election by a single vote. These two entrepreneurial public servants will share how to create inspiring places through a dialogue moderated by Indiana author **Scott Russell Sanders**. Scheduled for November 15 (3:30-5:30 PM) at St. Luke's United Methodist Church (100 W. 86th St.), the conversation includes two new elements. Audience members will be invited to ask questions, and the program will conclude with an innovative performance featuring nearly one dozen university, congregational, and community choirs in a "surround sound" performance of polychoral repertoire.

Other new program components include an October "Sacred Places Tour," featuring eight diverse sacred sites in central Indiana, and "Random Acts of Improvisation," featuring everything from public spectacles to public art created by madcap performers from Susurrus, NUVO, Butler University, Indianapolis Theatre Fringe Festival, Comedy Sportz, and Ivy Tech Community



Mayor John Fetterman (Braddock, PA) will participate in the 14th Annual Public Conversation on November 15.

College-Central Indiana, among others.

Fresh branding initiatives for 2009 include a new logo and website, new partnerships with print and electronic media, as well as social networking opportunities via Twitter and Facebook.

A local organizing committee, also new in 2009, was created to implement an expanded vision for the festival. **Michael S. Maurer**, chairman of the board for The National Bank of Indianapolis, serves as the festival's honorary chair, and **Brian Payne**, president of the Central Indiana Community Foundation and The Indianapolis Foundation, serves as festival chair. A steering committee and seven sub-committees have been meeting since January 2009 to bring the re-invigorated festival to life.

Learn more about the 2009 Spirit & Place Festival: www.spiritandplace.org

Globalization and Entrepreneurship Conference Features Nigerian King



King Michael Aremu Gbadebo

Scholars from around the world, including **Oba (King) Michael Aremu Gbadebo** of Nigeria, will gather at IUPUI to address globalization and economic development. The first Public Scholars in Africana Studies International Conference is scheduled for October 29-31, 2009, at University Place Conference Center.

The theme is "Rethinking Economic

Development in the Context of Globalization: Entrepreneurship, the Knowledge Economy, and Sustainable Development."

Conference events open to the public begin October 30 and include a book fair, workshops, and keynote lectures. Presentations will offer solutions on how to rejuvenate the economies of America and other countries.

"We are in the midst of an economic recession in which many Americans have lost or will lose their jobs," said conference organizer **Professor Bessie House-Soremekun**. "Now is the time to assemble the world's best and brightest minds to discuss these critical issues and to offer solutions that may be used

to create more jobs and wealth in the world today."

An accomplished entrepreneur, Gbadebo will speak on "The Changing Role of Nigeria in the 21st Century Knowledge Economy." He is joined by **Keenan Grenell**, vice president and dean of diversity at Colgate University; **Toyin Falola**, Frances Higginbotham Nalle Centennial Professor in History at the University of

Texas at Austin; and **Chief Jimmy Gboyega Delano**, president and CEO of Ilora L'Original Beauty Concepts, Inc.

Registration for the two days of public events is \$150 per person and includes panel attendance, the plenary session, and the keynote luncheon.

For information, visit: <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/publicscholarsconference>

Conference Topics

- How to succeed in business in the 21st century knowledge economy
- International business opportunities in the changing global economy
- The impact of globalization on Africa and the African Diaspora

New Economics Ph.D. at IUPUI

A new Ph.D. program in economics has recently been approved, and students are being accepted for Fall 2010.

"In the past, some talented students settled for the M.A. [in economics] because that was all that was available locally; now they have a choice," said **Paul Carlin**, professor and chair of the Department of Economics. "Other students left Indianapolis to study for a Ph.D. in economics because there was no local option; now there is."

The program, which is the culmination of a process that began many years ago, will offer health economics and nonprofit/philanthropic economics concentrations.

"The Ph.D. program is ideally suited to IUPUI,"

added **William Blomquist**, dean of the Indiana University School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, which is home to the Department of Economics. "It complements and strengthens the health focus of the IUPUI campus and Indiana University's recognized leadership in the study of philanthropy and nonprofit organizations."

The program, like all Ph.D.s in economics, is designed to take a minimum of four years to complete, but it's not unusual for students to take five or even six years to finish.

The application deadline for the new degree is January 15, 2010.

Interested students can apply online www.iupui.edu/~gradoff/admissions.

IUPUI Hosts Promising Poets

by Terry Kirts, English Faculty Member

Anyone worried about the current state of literature in high schools need only look at the recent entries in the IUPUI Poetry Contest. Poetry is alive and well. Initiated in 2007 by IUPUI Executive Vice Chancellor **Uday P. Sukhatme**, the contest fosters secondary students' interest in the written word by offering cash prizes and scholarship opportunities at IUPUI. In its first three years, the contest has received nearly 2,000 entries, with nearly 1,000 students submitting their work in 2009 alone.

One recent honoree is **Margaret Stoner**, a junior English major with an anthropology minor. As a student at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in 2007, Stoner received second place in the contest for her poem "Tracks Without Trains." Stoner made her way to

IUPUI and has thrived in IUPUI's creative writing courses, winning annual poetry and essay competitions in the School of Liberal Arts and becoming a member of the editorial staff of IUPUI's literary magazine *genesis*. "I didn't have IUPUI on my list of colleges until I was offered a scholarship," Stoner says. "I am extremely impressed with the creative writing program and really appreciate the small class sizes and attentive professors. I am really happy with my decision to stay close to home and attend IUPUI."

To facilitate students' college planning, the contest deadline will be shifted to the late spring in 2010, with scholarships awarded in the fall semester. Information about the contest and deadlines will be available at <http://cls.iupui.edu/poetry/>

Advances is a publication of the IU School of Liberal Arts Office of Development & External Affairs.

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Words on a Page: How One Good Idea Became An Award-Winning Book

by Josh Flynn, BA English 2007

In *Civil Rights Memorials and the Geography of Memory*, Associate Professor of Geography **Owen Dwyer**, along with **Derek H. Alderman**, an associate professor at East Carolina University, explore the parks, museums, streets, and monuments honoring those involved in the civil rights movement. Dwyer and Alderman consider the movement's history, present, and future while also asking why some participants have not received the same recognition as others. Theirs is the first book published on the topic.

Dwyer and Alderman's research also lead to the study of place—why a certain monument exists where it does and how location shapes perception of an event—and how geography shapes a people's view of whom we are and how we perceive our past. The uniqueness of the book and the many years of research paid off with a 2008 Globe Book Award for Public Understanding of Geography from the Association of American Geographers. The annual award recognizes a book that conveys the nature and importance of geography to a non-academic audience.

"This was a story worth telling, and it's very satisfying," Dwyer says of the book and the honor.

The book's origins lie with an idea Dwyer had as a graduate student at Pennsylvania State University, where he read about Confederate attempts to enshrine their lost cause. He became interested in how the civil rights movement was being honored and decided to tour the south. He found a vibrant memorial scene generating millions of dollars in revenue. But he also discovered that only

travel journalists were covering the phenomenon. "This is a bigger story than the attention it's getting," Dwyer thought at the time.

As the project grew in Dwyer's mind, he approached

"This was a story worth telling, and it's very satisfying," says Geography Associate Professor Owen Dwyer of his 2008 book, *Civil Rights Memorials and the Geography of Memory*.

Alderman. Alderman was well known for his work on the renaming of streets for Martin Luther King Jr., and the two men had become familiar with each other's work while presenting at the same conferences.

"If I wanted to write a book with a large scope I would have to retrace Alderman's work," Dwyer says. "So I asked Alderman if he would be interested in working with me."

"He was in high demand, and he did work that was highly recognized. I was very gratified he would work with me," Dwyer says of his co-author.

A lasting memory from the project for Dwyer involves students from IU-South Bend and Notre Dame who participated in a 16-day Civil Rights field trip in 2002. Along the way, he conducted interviews

Foundation, which subsidized the reproduction of the photos. "Without the support of these funders as well as the School of Liberal Arts, the book would still be a work in progress," he says.

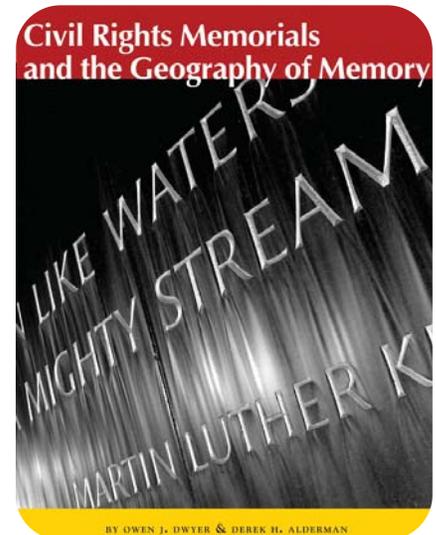
and took photos of the students and places they saw.

"I was very moved by the students," the professor says. "It was a discovery moment for them as they experienced history. All these facts, names, and places they always read about in books became real. It was powerful."

While on sabbatical in 2005, Dwyer began writing in earnest. During this process, he received a Center on Philanthropy grant, an IU Arts and Humanities grant, as well as support from The Graham

Luckily that is not the case because more than a few agree that it was indeed a story worth telling.

Learn more about the book by visiting the publisher site: <http://www.ugapress.uga.edu>



WINTER COLLEGE
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Participants will experience a dynamic weekend of educational workshops, lectures, and lively discussions, while enjoying sumptuous food, luxurious accommodations, and the warm Florida sun. The Sanibel Harbour Resort and Spa will serve as our headquarters.

Accomplished faculty will join us for the weekend to lead our educational program. In addition, special guests will include President Michael McRobbie and IUPUI Chancellor Charles R. Bantz.

For additional information, go to www.alumni.iupui.edu, email ssldavis@iupui.edu, or call Stefan Davis at (317) 274-2317 or toll free at (866) 267-3104.

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Doors Open for Disney Interns

by Tracy Donhardt, English Graduate Student

For many of us, memories of our childhoods include visits to Disney World, where we shook hands with Mickey Mouse, visited Cinderella in her castle, and rode rides with pirates. At home, our bedrooms likely were decorated with all things Disney. We watched Winnie the Pooh (and Tigger too!), and we stayed young with Peter Pan.

But for Liberal Arts students **Landon Mitchell**, **Christen Wood**, and **Chelsea Exner**, memories are reality; they lived and worked at Disney World as interns in the Disney College Program.

Landon Mitchell, a senior communication studies major, spent the 2006 Spring semester as a character performer in Disney's Entertainment Department, a job that allowed him to work in different areas of the park.

"Entertainment is a very unique department for many reasons, but one in particular is that every day is like the first day of work," Mitchell explained. "With Entertainment, I could be working outside of 'Pirates of the Caribbean' in the Magic Kingdom, and the next day I could be working in one of Animal Kingdom's restaurants. It was a cool job because I never grew tired of working at the same place."

At the end of his internship, Mitchell wasn't ready to leave behind the world of Disney. He became an IUPUI campus representative for the Disney College Program, which recruits students from schools across the country.

Then, Mitchell moved into a promotions position at Radio Disney, which has an office in Carmel, IN. He promotes the radio station at the State Fair, at the Indianapolis Zoo, and at area festivals.

"I am lucky to have participated in the college program. It really opens doors for someone to work his or her way through the company," Mitchell said.

Those doors also opened for Christen Wood. A senior international studies major, Wood enjoyed her first Disney

"We always say, 'If you can dream it, you can do it!' They have firefighters, doctors, artists, marketing execs, translators, and more. This is why I did the second internship and also why I am a Disney College Program campus representative at IUPUI right now."

Wood's internship helped her "land the job" and also provided new cultural experiences she hadn't expected.

"I lived in an apartment complex with about 2,000 other American and international interns,"

France. "I got to catch glimpses of their cultures," she said. But, for the creative writing junior, the experience provided something much more important.

"I'm painfully shy and having to interact constantly with people forced me out of my shell," she explained. Today, she recognizes the benefits to



Christen Wood (Right) with Tigger

becoming more comfortable around others. "For any

internship so much that she returned for a second.

"After my first internship, I was determined to keep my foot in the door," Wood said.

During that second internship, Wood worked in the park's Main Street operations. Her duties allowed her to be interactive with children, often playing "Mickey says" with kids before parades.

"I discovered that Disney is a place where the possibilities are endless," she said

. "Anything you want to do, you can do for Disney."

she explained.

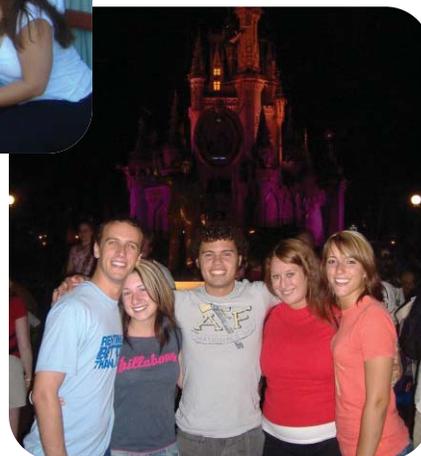
"There was always something to do, and I learned a lot about diversity!"

Chelsea Exner also enjoyed the cultural aspects of her internship. While working an Epcot ride or introducing a theater show, Exner met "a lot of different and amazing people from all over the world."

She interacted with other student interns from Puerto Rico, Barbados, Beijing, Portugal, and

job, you need good people skills. I'm developing those skills and have grown personally."

For more information, visit the Disney College Program site: <http://www.disneycollegeprogram.com>



Landon Mitchell (Center in both pictures) and friends

2009-10 Reiberg Reading Series

Founded in 1997 in honor of retired English Department Chair **Rufus Reiberg** and his wife, **Louise**, the Reiberg Series annually brings national and regional writers to the IUPUI campus to present their literary work.

This year's line-up includes a MacArthur Fellow, a National Book Award finalist, and a National Book Critics Circle Award recipient.

All readings are held in the IUPUI University Library Lilly Auditorium (755 W. Michigan St.) and begin at 7:30 p.m., unless noted. They are free and open to the public.

October 8, 2009

Memoirist and poet **Patricia Hampl** is the author of two poetry collections and six memoirs. She is a MacArthur Fellowship recipient and professor at the University of Minnesota.

October 15, 2009

Khaled Mattawa is a poet and translator. He has translated eight volumes of contemporary Arabic poetry and has co-edited two anthologies of Arab American literature.

February 25, 2010

Poet **Patricia Smith** is the author of *Blood Dazzler*, which chronicles the devastation wreaked by Hurricane Katrina. She is a 2008 National Book Award finalist and has performed three one-woman plays.

March 4, 2010

Join area poets, performers, and activists for a festive celebration on "International Women's Day." The event is co-sponsored by the **Women's Studies Program** and begins at 7:00 p.m.



April 1, 2010

Nin Andrews is the author of numerous collections including *Sleeping with Houdini* and the forthcoming *Southern Comfort*. The poet is a recipient of two Ohio Arts Council grants.

April 15, 2010

Poet and spoken-word artist **Jessica Care-Moore** is the author of *The Words Don't Fit in My Mouth* and is a frequent winner of "It's Showtime at the Apollo." Reading will be at the **Indiana History Center** (450 W. Ohio St.).

April 21, 2010

1986 winner of a National Book Critics Circle Award, **Ed Hirsch** is the author of eight collections of poetry, including the bestselling book *How to Read a Poem and Fall in Love with Poetry* and *The Living Fire: New and Selection Poems*, to be released in 2010.

The Rufus & Louise Reiberg Series is made possible by the generous support of the **Reiberg Family**, the **Etheridge Knight Festival of the Arts**, and several IUPUI offices and programs, including the **40th Anniversary Speakers Fund**.

For more information visit the English Department at <http://english.iupui.edu>.

Common Theme Common Wealth: A Community Conversation

Imagine if the campus of 30,000-plus students and all of its faculty and staff took the time to read a book together. What if they engaged in a multidisciplinary discussion and series of events focused on a common theme?

That is the goal of the new "Common Theme" campus initiative. It begins this fall with a calendar of events—films, panels, exhibitions, conferences, contests and more—on the focal topics of green economy, healthy communities, and just sustainability, all of which are discussed in **Bill McKibben's** book, *Deep Economy*.

Bill McKibben was the first author to bring climate change to a general audience. In *Deep Economy*, he asks how we might rethink and rebuild our economy today. He asks simple but profound questions: Is more always better? What makes a community wealthy, and how might we build a durable economy that values and supports those sources of common wealth?

IUPUI will host McKibben during the 2009 Spirit & Place Festival. His keynote address is Monday, November 9, 4:30-5:45 PM

in the Campus Center, room 450. Additionally, the **Indiana State Museum** will host a panel discussion with McKibben on Tuesday, November 10, 10:30-11:45 AM, on the topic "Can Local Food Feed Indiana and the World?"

Common Theme's first thesis is sustainability, specifically "Consuming Well for the Wealth of Communities, from IUPUI to the World." This two-year campus conversation seeks to span the campus and the surrounding community. Students have led the development of the Common Theme website (iupui.edu/common_theme), with a calendar of campus and community events, a *Deep Economy* blog, a "green" map, a Facebook page, film lists, bibliographies, and more. Already this year, **Senator Richard Lugar**, **Mayor Greg Ballard**, and **former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Paul O'Neill** have participated in Common Theme events.

The School of Liberal Arts takes pride in playing a central role in this inaugural Common Theme. The project author and faculty leader, **David Craig**, is an associate professor of religious studies.





SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
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Last Chance to Take Advantage of the IRA Charitable Rollover

by Estacia Brandenburg, JD, Associate Director of Gift Planning, IU Foundation



There are just a few more months to take advantage of the IRA Charitable Rollover, which is set to expire on December 31, 2009.

The law provides an exclusion from gross income for otherwise taxable IRA distributions of up to \$100,000 per year from

traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs. The exclusion applies to "qualified charitable distributions" made by plan owners who have reached age 70½ on the date of distribution to charity. The gift does not qualify for an additional income tax charitable deduction because IRA assets are pre-tax assets.

Excluding from income the money that comes out of your IRA and directing it to the IU School of Liberal Arts is the key, and this advantage can really help at tax time. The exclusion applies to traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs only.

Here's how it works.

- You ask your IRA administrator, in writing, to send a check directly to the IU School of Liberal Arts.
- The distribution from the IRA is excluded from your gross income for federal tax purposes.
- An individual 70½ can exclude up to \$100,000 per year by qualified IRA distribution.
- The IRA Rollover is for outright gifts only—you may not use it to fund a life income plan such as a CGA or charitable remainder trust.

The plan owners who tend to benefit most from these new rules are non-itemizers, donors whose

charitable deductions are maxed out, and donors in states that don't allow charitable deductions, like Indiana.

Contact us to learn more about the IRA Charitable Rollover. It's a smart way to give, and knowing all your options is important when you make your personal financial and charitable plans.

To learn how you can use the rollover to support the School of Liberal Arts, in a way that best suits your overall financial plan, contact Estacia Brandenburg, (317) 278-5653 or esmbrand@iupui.edu.